

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /101 W

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R 021600Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4018

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 4216

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR GR TU

SUBJ: TURKISH EMBASSY BULLETIN PROMPTS SHRILL PRESS  
REACTION

1. UNDER BANNER HEADLINE "SCANDAL OF TURKISH EMBASSY IN  
ATHENS" ELEFTHEROS COSMOS (PRO-REGIME) LABELLED AS  
"INADMISSIBLE INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF  
GREECE AND A DIPLOMATIC SCANDAL" TURKISH EMBASSY'S PRESS  
BULLETIN DATED JUNE 29. COSMOS DREW ATTENTION OF GREEK  
GOVERNMENT TO TURKISH EMBASSY'S MISCONDUCT. ACCORDING  
TO COSMOS TURKISH EMBASSY BULLETIN, WHICH APPEARS IN  
FRENCH AND ENGLISH UNDER CAPTION "NOUVELLES DE TURQUIE",  
CONTAINED COMMENTS ON GREECE'S DOMESTIC POLITICAL AFFAIRS,  
CHARACTERIZED GOG IN IMPROPER MANNER, AND MADE  
DISRESPECTFUL ALLUSIONS TO NATION'S ARMED FORCES  
AND PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC. COSMOS CONCLUDED THAT THESE  
ACTIONS OF TURKISH EMBASSY--THE RESULT OF ANKARA'S  
NERVOUSNESS OWING TO ITS REPEATED FAILURES--VIOLATE  
DIPLOMATIC NORMS AND CANNOT REMAIN WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES."

2. COMMENT: "NOUVELLES DE TURQUIE" IS REGULAR  
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TURKISH EMBASSY NEWS SERVICE PUBLICATION DISTRIBUTED TO

NEWS AGENCIES AND PRESS IN ATHENS. EMBASSY HAS REVIEWED JUNE 29 ISSUE WHICH APPEARS TO BE NO MORE THAN COLLECTION OF TELETYPE NEWS ITEMS PRESUMABLY SENT FROM MINISTRY IN ANKARA. ITEM SINGLED OUT BY COSMOS FROM JUNE 19 PUBLICATION IS DATED BRUSSELS UNDER HEADLINE "REACTIONS TO FAILURE OF TURKISH-GREEK TALKS." IT NOTED THAT "DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES SAID WITH REGARD TO FAILURE OF GREEK-TURKISH TALKS THAT GREEK PREMIER HAS NO FREE INITIATIVE AT HAND. HE MUST HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED BY GREEK JUNTA DURING A TELEPHONE CALL HE MADE WITH ATHENS BETWEEN MEETINGS WITH TURKISH PREMIER TO CHANGE HIS ATTITUDE. IT SEEMS GREEK JUNTA DO NOT WANT A RECONCILIATION WITH TURKEY. THE REASON IS PROBABLY THAT GREECE HAD SUFFERED A SETBACK DURING 1967 CONFLICT IN CYPRUS WHEN TURKEY ADOPTED A STRICT POLICY. GREECE THEN WITHDREW HER 10,000 MEN UNIT FROM CYPRUS. HEAD OF GREEK JUNTA, GENERAL GHIZIKIS, WAS COMMANDER OF THESE FORCES AT THE TIME." TURKISH BULLETIN REPORTED THAT GREEK JUNTA SEEKS A POSITION OF STRENGTH BEFORE ENTERING DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS AND WANTS TO COMPLETE ITS MILITARY BUILD UP. "GREEK JUNTA INSTEAD OF EASING RELATIONS WITH TURKEY TRIES TO INCREASE UNEASINESS." ITEM CONCLUDED WITH OBSERVATION THAT GREECE'S REJECTION OF ECEVIT'S PROPOSALS HAS PLACED GREECE IN UNJUSTIFIABLE POSITION. EMBOFF WAS INFORMED THAT COSMOS INITIALLY INTENDED TO WRITE MORE STRIDENT ARTICLE BUT GOG PRESS AND INFORMATION OFFICE PERSUADED COSMOS' EDITOR SAVVAS CONSTANTOPOULOS TO TONE DOWN ARTICLE. AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER DID NOT PICK UP THIS TOPIC WHICH BEARS OUT REPORTED GOG PRESS OFFICE GUIDANCE TO PLAY DOWN INCIDENT. TASCA

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## Message Attributes

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